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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1: (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

evaluating the activity of one or more virtual machines, the activity including usage of one or more physical resources, including at least one of an input device, a display device, and a communication device, to which access is controlled by a virtual machine monitor; and

reallocating the physical resources to the virtual machine(s) based, at least in part, on the evaluated activity.

2: (Original) The method of claim 1, further including:

monitoring the activity of one or more virtual machines.

3: (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein monitoring the activity of one or more virtual machines includes monitoring an activity selected from a group including:

interrupt usage,

processor usage,

network usage,

disk usage, and

whether the virtual machine is performing a time-critical task.

4: (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein monitoring the activity of one or more virtual machines includes:

monitoring the activity of the virtual machine substantially in parallel with executing the virtual machine.

5: (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) based, at least in part, on the evaluated activity includes:

either increasing or decreasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a physical resource.

6: (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) includes:

increasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a first physical resource; and

decreasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a second physical resource.

7: (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) includes a reallocation selected from a group including the following:

altering the order in which the virtual machine(s) are executed,

swapping between virtual machines,

assigning core affinity to a virtual machine,

assigning a processor affinity to a virtual machine, and
altering the time quanta assigned to the virtual machine(s).

8: (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) is performed by ~~[[a]]~~ the virtual machine monitor having a resource manager to evaluate the virtual machine(s) activity.

9: (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the resource manager is a part of an integrated circuit.

10: (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein evaluating the activity of one or more virtual machines includes:

determining whether the activity of the virtual machine(s) is sufficient to trigger a change in the resource allocation;
suggesting a resource allocation; and
determining whether the suggested resource allocation negatively impacts the performance of another virtual machine.

11: (Currently Amended) An article comprising:
a storage medium having a plurality of machine accessible instructions, wherein when the instructions are executed, the instructions provide for:

evaluating the activity of one or more virtual machines, the activity including

usage of one or more physical resources, including at least one of an input device, a display device, and a communication device, to which access is controlled by a virtual machine monitor; and

reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) based, at least in part, on the evaluated activity.

12: (Original) The article of claim 11, further including instructions providing for:
monitoring the activity of one or more virtual machines.

13: (Original) The article of claim 12, wherein the instructions providing for monitoring the activity of one or more virtual machines includes instructions providing for monitoring an activity selecting from a group including:

interrupt usage,

processor usage,

network usage,

disk usage, and

whether the virtual machine is performing a time-critical task.

14: (Original) The article of claim 12, wherein the instructions providing for monitoring the activity of one or more virtual machines includes instructions providing for:

monitoring the activity of the virtual machine substantially in parallel with executing the virtual machine.

15: (Original) The article of claim 11, wherein the instructions providing for reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) based, at least in part, on the evaluated activity includes instructions providing for:

either increasing or decreasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a physical resource.

16: (Original) The article of claim 15, wherein the instructions providing for reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) includes instructions providing for:

increasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a first physical resource; and

decreasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a second physical resource.

17: (Original) The article of claim 15, wherein the instructions providing for reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) includes a reallocation selected from a group including the following:

altering the order in which the virtual machine(s) are executed,

swapping between virtual machines,

assigning core affinity to a virtual machine,

assigning a processor affinity to a virtual machine, and
altering the time quanta assigned to the virtual machine(s).

18: (Currently Amended) The article of claim 11, wherein the instructions providing for reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) are performed by [[a]] the virtual machine monitor having a resource manager to evaluate the virtual machine(s) activity.

19: (Original) The article of claim 18, wherein the resource manager is a part of an integrated circuit.

20: (Original) The article of claim 11, wherein the instructions providing for evaluating the activity of one or more virtual machines includes instructions providing for:

determining whether the activity of the virtual machine(s) is sufficient to trigger a change in the resource allocation;

suggesting a resource allocation; and

determining whether the suggested resource allocation negatively impacts the performance of another virtual machine.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a plurality of physical resources, including at least one of an input device, a display device, and a communication device;

a plurality of virtual machines, capable of sharing ~~[[a]]~~ the plurality of physical resources;

an activity monitor, capable of monitoring the activity of the virtual machines, the activity including usage of the plurality of physical resources;

a virtual machine manager, capable of managing the virtual machines and reallocating access to the physical resources amongst the virtual machines, based at least in part on the monitored activity.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the virtual machine monitor includes a resource manager that is capable of reallocating access to the physical resources amongst the virtual machines.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the activity monitor is capable of monitoring an activity selected from a group including:

interrupt usage,

processor usage,

network usage,

disk usage, and

whether the virtual machine is performing a time-critical task.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the activity monitor is capable of monitoring the activity of the virtual machines substantially in parallel with the execution of the virtual machines.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the virtual machine monitor is capable of either increasing or decreasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a physical resource.

26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the virtual machine monitor is capable of reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) via:

increasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a first physical resource; and

decreasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a second physical resource.

27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the virtual machine monitor is capable of reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) by selecting from a group including the following:

altering the order in which the virtual machine(s) are executed,

swapping between virtual machines,

assigning core affinity to a virtual machine,

assigning a processor affinity to a virtual machine, and
altering the time quanta assigned to the virtual machine(s).

28: (Original) The apparatus of claim 22, wherein the resource manager is further capable of evaluating the monitored activity of the virtual machine(s).

29: (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the resource manager is capable of evaluating the monitored activity of the virtual machine by:

~~wherein evaluating the activity of one or more virtual machines includes:~~

determining whether the activity of the virtual machine(s) is sufficient to trigger a change in the resource allocation;

suggesting a resource allocation; and

determining whether the suggested resource allocation negatively impacts the performance of another virtual machine.

30: (Original) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the activity monitor and virtual machine monitor are integrated into the same circuit.

31. (Presently Amended) A system comprising:

a plurality of physical resources, ~~having a processor and a network interface~~
including at least one of an input device, a display device, and a communication device;

a plurality of virtual machines, capable of sharing access to the plurality of

physical resources;

an activity monitor, capable of monitoring the activity of the virtual machines, the activity including usage of the plurality of physical resources;

a virtual machine manager, capable of managing the virtual machines and reallocating access to the physical resources amongst the virtual machines, based at least in part on the monitored activity.

32. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the virtual machine monitor includes a resource manager that is capable of reallocating access to the physical resources amongst the virtual machines.

33. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the activity monitor is capable of monitoring an activity selected from a group including:

interrupt usage,

processor usage,

network usage,

disk usage, and

whether the virtual machine is performing a time-critical task.

34. (Original) The system of claim 33, wherein the activity monitor is capable of monitoring the activity of the virtual machines substantially in parallel with the execution the virtual machines.

35. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the virtual machine monitor is capable of either increasing or decreasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a physical resource.

36. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the virtual machine monitor is capable of reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) via:

increasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a first physical resource; and

decreasing the ability of the virtual machine(s) to access to a second physical resource.

37. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the virtual machine monitor is capable of reallocating physical resources to the virtual machine(s) by selecting from a group including the following:

altering the order in which the virtual machine(s) are executed,

swapping between virtual machines,

assigning core affinity to a virtual machine,

assigning a processor affinity to a virtual machine, and

altering the time quanta assigned to the virtual machine(s).

38: (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the resource manager is further capable of evaluating the monitored activity of the virtual machine(s).

39: (Currently Amended) The system of claim 38, wherein the resource manager is capable of evaluating the monitored activity of the virtual machine by:

~~wherein evaluating the activity of one or more virtual machines includes:~~

determining whether the activity of the virtual machine(s) is sufficient to trigger a change in the resource allocation;

suggesting a resource allocation; and

determining whether the suggested resource allocation negatively impacts the performance of another virtual machine.

40: (Original) The system of claim 39, wherein the activity monitor and virtual machine monitor are integrated into the same circuit.